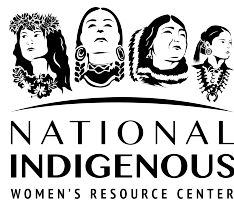


# **2025** **National Tribal Housing Justice Summit**



## **SUMMIT AGENDA**

**JUNE 26 - 27, 2025**

Berna Facio Professional Development Center  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

[www.niwrc.org/housing](http://www.niwrc.org/housing)



## Thank You to Our Partners!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the organizations and partners whose generous support made the 2025 National Tribal Housing Justice Summit possible. Your investment and skills helps advance housing justice, uplift Tribal communities, and build safe, stable futures for all our relatives.

## SPONSORS



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# Conference Overview

***"A Collective Call to Action to Ensure Safe Housing for  
All Our Relatives for Generations to Come!"***

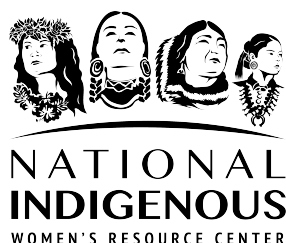
Welcome to the 2025 National Tribal Housing Justice Summit — a two-day gathering of Tribal domestic violence advocates, community leaders, and housing experts dedicated to advancing housing justice for Indigenous communities. This year's Summit will focus on strengthening access to housing, expanding safe and culturally appropriate options for survivors, and promoting justice through both policy and tradition-based approaches.

Through keynote addresses, interactive workshops, and peer-led discussions, participants will explore innovative strategies, best practices, and community-driven solutions to ensure all our relatives have access to safe and stable housing.



***We respectfully acknowledge that this gathering takes place on the ancestral homelands of the Pueblo, Navajo (Diné), and Apache peoples.***

***We honor their enduring presence, cultural heritage, and continued stewardship of this land. We extend our gratitude to the communities who have called this region home since time immemorial and recognize their resilience in the face of ongoing challenges.***





# 2025 National Tribal Housing Justice Summit



Thursday, June 26, 2025

7:30am - 4:30pm	Registration Open	Lobby
8:00am - 9:00 am	Breakfast	Northwest Wing
9:00am - 4:30pm	Marketplace and Resource Fair Opens	Auditorium - Room 100
9:00am - 4:30pm	"The Land Between Us" Art Exhibition	West Wing
9:00am - 10:00am	Invocation & Welcoming	Auditorium - Room 100
10:00am - 10:45 am	Keynote: Restoring Beauty	
10:45am - 11:00am	NACA Student Performance	
11:00am - 11:30am	Keynote: Housing Our Relatives	
11:30am	Lunch	Northwest Wing
During Lunch	NACA Student Performance	Auditorium - Room 100
1:00pm - 4:30pm	Wellness Room Open	Room 111
1:00pm - 2:30pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	
	Breakout 1: Addressing Housing Challenges in Hawaii: A Community-Centered Approach	Room 101A
	Breakout 2: Housing Building Our Workforce	Room 101B
	Breakout 3: The Important Role of Housing in the Live and Outcomes of Families	Room 102A
	Breakout 4: A Journey Toward Home: Navigating Housing and Healing with Native American Connections	Room 102B
	Breakout 5: From Land to Home: Reclaiming Housing Justice through Indigenous Vision and Voice	Auditorium - Room 100
2:30pm - 3:00pm	Break	
3:00pm - 4:30pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	Room 101A
	Breakout 6: Dreams and Safety: Housing Our Relatives	Room 101B
	Breakout 7: Reclaim, Rebuild, and Heal: The Spirit Journey Healing Village	Room 102A
	Breakout 8: A Collaborative Panel on KFWC's Integrated Work	Room 102B
	Breakout 9: Voluntary Services in Housing Programs	Auditorium - Room 100
	Breakout 10: Understanding Safe Housing for Alaska Native Survivors of Domestic Violence AKNWRC's Alaska Safe Housing Assessment Report	
4:30pm	Adjournment	



# 2025 National Tribal Housing Justice Summit



Friday, June 27, 2025

7:30am - 2:00pm	Registration Open	Lobby
7:30am - 8:30pm	Breakfast	Northwest Wing
8:30am - 2:00pm	Marketplace and Resource Fair Opens	Auditorium - Room 100
8:30am - 2:00pm	"The Land Between Us" Art Exhibition	West Wing
8:30am - 2:00pm	Wellness Room Open	Room 111
8:30am - 8:45am	Welcome and Call to Action: Policy Recommendations	Auditorium - Room 100
8:45am - 10:00am	Panel: Policy: International Human Rights	
10:00am - 11:00am	Panel: Voices of Strength	
11:00am - 12:00pm	Panel: Youth Housing Policy	
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Lunch	
12:30pm - 1:00pm	Traditional Medicine Plants and Food Sovereignty	North Wing
1:30pm - 2:00pm	Call to Action & Closing	Auditorium - Room 100 Auditorium - Room 100

- Thank You for Attending -



# Detailed Schedule

## Wednesday June 25, 2025

**5:30pm to 7:30pm**

### **Welcome Reception**

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Courtyard (2401 12th Street NW, Albuquerque, NM)

Special presentation by Dr. Theodore (Ted) Jojola (Isleta Pueblo). Dr. Jojola will discuss pueblo architecture and the “Restorying our Heartplaces: Contemporary Pueblo Architecture” exhibition. Curated by Dr. Jojola and Dr. Lynn Paxson, the exhibition "highlights the evolution of Pueblo architecture...showcasing the work of traditional and professional Pueblo architects and designers, the exhibition emphasizes how ancestral influences continue to shape 20th and 21st-century Pueblo architecture."

After the presentation, attendees are invited to visit the museum and view the exhibit in the newly renovated South Gallery.

## Thursday June 26, 2025

**7:30am to 4:30pm**

### **Registration Open**

**Lobby**

**9:00am to 4:30pm**

### **Marketplace and Resource Fair Open**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

**9:00am to 4:30pm**

### **“The Land Between Us” Art Exhibition**

#### **West Wing**

The Land Between Us is a traveling exhibition that brings together a collective of intercultural and intertribal Native artists to explore our deep, evolving relationship with the land. Through paintings, photography, ceramics, textiles, and mixed media, the exhibition reveals land not as a border that divides, but as a sacred, living connection that binds humanity together.

These artists illuminate the deep-rooted relationship between Indigenous peoples and the lands they call home. Navigating the space between distinct cultural identities, these artists uncover a universal language of land stewardship – one that resonates from Oceania to the Plains and beyond. Each piece reflects personal and communal understandings of ancestral pathways, environmental guardianship, and the interwoven histories of diverse nations, tribes, and languages.

From this place of harmony, we find the power to create, heal, and sustain the living landscape of our shared humanity.

Artists include Anthony Gchachu (Zuni), Tasheena Littleben (Diné), Hedi Brandow (Diné/Kānaka Maoli), Del Curfman (Crow), Kurt Lomawaima (Hopi), Carly Treece (MVSOKKE/Cherokee), Brian Taaffee-Cordova (Taos), Benjamin L. West (Otoe Missouria/Southern Cheyenne/MVSOKKE), Jesus Miguel Avena (Mestizo, Mexican American, Latinx)

**8:00am to 9:00am**

### **Breakfast Provided**

#### **Northwest Wing**

Menu: Bluecorn mush with toppings (pinons, berries, granola, coconut, honey), fresh fruit, assorted pastries, donuts, muffins, coffee, hot tea, juice.

Catering provided by Sweet Revenge Cakes & Confections.

**9:00am to 10:00am**

### **Invocation and Welcoming**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Speakers:

Tim Keller, Mayor, City of Albuquerque

Gil Vigil, Former Governor, Tesuque Pueblo

Josett Monette, Cabinet Secretary, State of New Mexico Indian Affairs Department

Lucy Simpson, Executive Director, National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center

**10:00am to 10:45am**

**Keynote:** Restoring Beauty: Reclaiming K’é for our Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Speaker:

Amber Kanazbah Crotty, Council Delegate, 25th Navajo Nation Council

**10:45am to 11:00am**

### **NACA Student Performance**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Native American Community Academy (NACA) students will perform cultural songs.

**11:00am to 11:30am**

**Keynote: Housing Our Relatives**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Speaker: Dr. Theodore (Ted) Jojola, Ph.D.

HOUSING OUR RELATIVES—With the advent of the 1975 Indian Self-Determination Act, our tribal governments are empowered to control and shape the growth of their communities. Housing, alongside other key determinants, is one of the most critical factors in managing local development, yet it remains underutilized in the overall scheme of comprehensive planning and design. This keynote will highlight a number of these challenges and propose ways to reclaim housing for the collective vision of the community.

**11:30am – 1:00pm**

**Lunch Provided**

**Northwest Wing**

Menu: Grilled chicken fajitas, Grilled vegetable fajitas, Southwest Corn Mix, Pinto Beans, Flour tortillas, Garden Salad, Assorted Cupcakes, coffee, hot tea, Iced Navajo tea.

Catering provided by Sweet Revenge Cakes & Confections

**During Lunch**

**NACA Student Performance**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Native American Community Academy (NACA) students will perform cultural songs.

**1:00pm to 4:30pm**

**Wellness Room Open**

Room 111

**Concurrent Breakout Sessions:**

**1:00pm to 2:30pm**

**Addressing Housing Challenges in Hawai'i: A Community-Centered Approach**

**Breakout 1 – Room 101A**

Presenters:

Damayanthi Fernando, Director of Programs, Hawaiian Community Assets (HCA)

Erica Hanawahini, Home Loan Manager, Hawai'i Community Lending (HCL)

Description:

Hawai'i continues to face a growing housing crisis—characterized by soaring costs, limited affordable inventory, displacement, and widening gaps in access to homeownership. In this session, presenters from Hawaiian Community Assets (HCA) and Hawai'i Community Lending (HCL) will explore how culturally grounded, community-centered approaches are creating pathways to housing stability across the state. Participants will learn about:

- The current housing landscape and systemic barriers faced by local and Native Hawaiian families
- Solutions grounded in financial education, housing counseling, and flexible, community-based lending
- An integrated partnership model that aligns services across both organizations—offering wraparound, person-centered support from education to financing

This session will highlight how HCA and HCL's collaborative approach is driving impact, increasing access to capital, and empowering communities to navigate housing systems with confidence and dignity.

**1:00 pm to 2:30 pm**

**Housing: Building Our Workforce**

**Breakout 2 – Room 101B**

Presenter:

Jamie B. Navenma, Executive Director, Laguna Housing Development and Management Enterprise (LHDME)

Representative, San Felipe Pueblo Housing Authority

Description:

San Felipe Housing does housing, but they also utilize the Pueblo workforce for construction. Southwest Tribal Housing Alliance (SWTHA) has been intentional about, and creative in, partnering with the Santa Fe Community College. Together the tribal housing authorities are able to access HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, and Basics of Weatherization Training. In this session we will discuss our best practices and answer questions such as: Why building the tribal workforce is important? What are the benefits to the tribe? What are the challenges? What did you learn from the process?

**1:00 pm to 2:30 pm**

**The Important Role of Housing in the Lives and Outcomes of Families**

**Breakout 3 – Room 102A**

Presenter:

Krista Del Gallo, Housing and Child Welfare Consultant



#### Description:

Families require safe and stable homes to grow and thrive. Child Welfare often emphasizes the attainment of what they consider to be safe and stable housing among families with whom they are involved. However, the increasing shortage of affordable housing across the country compounds challenges and barriers for all families and particularly those that are systems involved. Historic policies and practices including the displacement of indigenous peoples from ancestral homelands led to the disproportionate rates of homelessness and housing instability among Native Americans today. Housing is a paramount issue for survivors of domestic violence and their children, who may have to relocate for safety or become at risk of losing their housing in response to violence and trauma. All these together create a double bind for Native survivors and their children struggling to live safely and peacefully. This workshop will review the intersecting challenges families face as they attempt to maintain safe housing and describe the underpinning of systems and policies, past and present, that too often exacerbate these challenges. We'll discuss interventions to mitigate trauma associated with domestic violence and housing instability and explore advocacy strategies to shift systems and practices towards fostering and building safer housing opportunities for families.

#### **1:00pm to 2:30pm**

##### **A Journey Toward Home: Navigating Housing and Healing with Native American Connections**

##### **Breakout 4 – Room 102B**

#### Presenter:

Matilde Serena-Jordan, Sr. Director of Housing Services, Native American Connections

#### Description:

This presentation will explore the “path” to home, highlighting the journey within Native American Connections and the diverse array of services and housing programs we offer. We will walk through how we guide individuals from initial outreach to secure Housing detailing the transitional phases along the way—through various housing models such as shelter, bridge housing, permanent supportive housing, and affordable housing. A key focus will be on the comprehensive services provided to stabilize and support each resident throughout their unique journey toward long-term housing stability. This session will provide an in-depth, interactive presentation that guides participants through the various stages of housing and services offered at Native American Connections. The goal is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the housing models and the services that support individuals along their journey to stable housing.

#### **1:00pm to 2:30pm**

##### **From Land to Home: Reclaiming Housing Justice through Indigenous Vision and Voice**

##### **Breakout 5 – Room 100**

#### Presenters:

Chenoah Bah Stilwell-Jensen, Ph.D., Member, Southwest Indigenous Housing Justice Collaborative

Dawn Begay, Member, Southwest Indigenous Housing Justice Collaborative

Brandi Ahmie, Liaison, City of Albuquerque Office of Native American Affairs

Garron Yepa, AICAE, Senior Designer, MASS Design Group

#### Description:

This session examines the historical and systemic roots of housing injustice for Indigenous peoples and how Native communities are reclaiming space, sovereignty, and sustainability through bold visions for the future. From pre-colonial traditional lifeways to present-day policy impacts, presenters will offer a timeline of transformation, a deep dive into the state of Native housing in Albuquerque, and community-driven strategies for systems alignment. The session concludes with a forward-looking panel that centers Indigenous leadership, land rematriation, and self-determined housing development for future generations.

#### **2:30 pm to 3:00 pm**

##### **Break**

#### **Concurrent Breakout Sessions:**

#### **3:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

##### **Dreams and Safety: Housing Our Relatives**

##### **Breakout Session 6 – Room 101A**

#### Presenter:

Victoria Ybanez, Executive Director, Red Wind Consulting

#### Description:

Housing is a fundamental right for all, especially for our Relatives experiencing domestic and sexual violence who need a secure environment to rebuild their lives. With limited housing options, Advocates need to be creative and proactive in finding housing for our Relatives that will serve to provide long-term safety and stability. Safe housing comes in many shapes and sizes as well as costs. As advocates addressing violence against women, we have advocated for criminal justice reforms and resources, we can also advocate for the housing needs of our Relatives. This session will discuss creating a space to support our Relatives on their journeys, what makes housing safe and how to advocate for their housing needs.

**3:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

**Reclaim, Rebuild and Heal: The Spirit Journey Healing Village**

**Breakout Session 7 – Room 101B**

Presenter:

Norine Hill, Executive Director/Founder, Mother Nation Seattle

Description:

An overview of a National Healing Model, the Spirit Journey Healing Village is a transitional housing program. The project is a Native and Survivor led village for unsheltered Native women and children seeking healing from addictions and sexual abuse. The original program model is built on the ancestral teachings of each resident guided by Elders to reclaim their cultural identity and celebrate the beauty of Sisterhood.

**3:00pm to 4:30pm**

**A Collaborative Panel on KFWC's Integrated Work**

**Breakout Session 8 – Room 102A**

Presenters:

Lucas O'Laughlin, LCSW, Director, Kewa Family Wellness Center

Didra Humetewa, Youth Shelter Manager, Kewa Family Wellness Center

Estefanita L. Calabaza, CHR & Prevention Program Manager, Kewa Family Wellness Center

Description:

Kewa House is an innovative, tribally licensed program in New Mexico addressing the critical need for culturally relevant support for Native American youth (ages 0-17) from the Northern and Southern Pueblos, Mescalero/Jicarilla, and Navajo Nation. We provide a unique temporary emergency shelter that deeply integrates traditional Native values and practices to cultivate a profound sense of belonging, hope, and empowerment. Beyond essential care, our comprehensive approach includes licensed counseling, crucial academic support, and culturally-rooted prevention programs such as "Motherhood is Sacred" and "Fatherhood is Sacred" training. Kewa House exemplifies how indigenous wisdom can inform and transform youth services, fostering holistic well-being and long-term success for a vital segment of our global community.

**3:00pm to 4:30pm**

**Voluntary Services in Housing Programs**

**Breakout Session 9 – Room 102B**

Presenter:

Kailey Carter, Senior Housing Specialist, National Network to End Domestic Violence

Description:

Practical applications in OVW Transitional Housing programs.” Participants of this training will learn how to: define voluntary services, implement voluntary services in practice in a transitional housing setting, incorporate healthy boundaries in advocacy to prevent burn-out, and practice personal reflection and reflective supervision.

**3:00pm to 4:30pm**

**Understanding Safe Housing for Alaska Native Survivors of Domestic Violence: AKNWRC's Alaska Safe Housing Assessment Report**

**Breakout Session 10 – Room 100**

Presenters:

Tami Truett Jerue, Executive Director, Alaska Native Women's Resource Center (AKNWRC)

Rick A. Haskins-Garcia, Esq., Director of Law and Policy, AKNWRC & Tribal Judge for the Chickaloon Native Village

Descriptions:

The Alaska Native Women's Resource Center (AKNWRC) is a Tribal nonprofit organization dedicated to ending violence against women with Alaska's Tribes and allied organizations. AKNWRC's philosophy is that violence against women is rooted in the systematic dispossession of Indigenous Nations. Alaska faces a severe housing crisis disproportionately impacting Alaska Native survivors, with overcrowding four times the national average and over 44% of rural Alaska Native households severely overcrowded. This forces survivors into an impossible choice: stay with abusers or face homelessness. Our Alaska Safe Housing report identified critical challenges, including scarce emergency housing, insufficient long-term housing with prohibitive costs, reduced local availability due to tourist rentals, and inconsistent service coordination. In response, six action steps were developed, including increasing funding coordination across sectors; expanding safe homes beyond traditional DV providers; renovating vacant structures; and considering harm-doer removal approaches, among others. Together, we can transform this crisis into lasting change. By combining our collective knowledge, resources, and commitment to Tribal sovereignty, we can create comprehensive solutions that honor Indigenous values while ensuring survivors have safe, culturally-appropriate housing. We invite you to join this critical work, sharing your community's experiences and collaborating on strategies to protect all Alaska Native survivors.

## Friday June 27, 2025

7:30 am to 2:00 pm

**Registration Open**

8:30 am to 2:00 pm

**Marketplace and Resource Fair Open**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

8:30 am to 2:00 pm

**Wellness Room Open**

**Room 111**

8:30 am – 2:00 pm

**“The Land Between Us” Art Exhibition**

**West Wing**

The Land Between Us is a traveling exhibition that brings together a collective of intercultural and intertribal Native artists to explore our deep, evolving relationship with the land. Through paintings, photography, ceramics, textiles, and mixed media, the exhibition reveals land not as a border that divides, but as a sacred, living connection that binds humanity together.

These artists illuminate the deep-rooted relationship between Indigenous peoples and the lands they call home. Navigating the space between distinct cultural identities, these artists uncover a universal language of land stewardship – one that resonates from Oceania to the Plains and beyond. Each piece reflects personal and communal understandings of ancestral pathways, environmental guardianship, and the interwoven histories of diverse nations, tribes, and languages.

From this place of harmony, we find the power to create, heal, and sustain the living landscape of our shared humanity.

Artists include Anthony Gchachu (Zuni), Tasheena Littleben (Diné), Hedi Brandow (Diné/Kānaka Maoli), Del Curfman (Crow), Kurt Lomawaima (Hopi), Carly Treece (MVS KOKE/Cherokee), Brian Taaffee-Cordova (Taos), Benjamin L. West (Otoe Missouria/Southern Cheyenne/MVS KOKE), Jesus Miguel Avena (Mestizo, Mexican American, Latinx)

7:30am to 8:30am

**Breakfast Provided**

**Northwest Wing**

Menu: Assorted breakfast burritos (Green Chile Bacon, Green Chile Egg, Red Chile Egg, Green Chile Vegan, Bean & Cheese), fresh orange juice, coffee.

Catering provided by Three Sisters Kitchen.

Coffee donated from Starbucks at Avanyu Plaza

8:30am to 8:45am

**Welcome and Call to Action: Policy Recommendations**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Speaker:

Melanie Stansbury, Congresswoman, US House of Representatives

8:45am to 10:00am

**Panel: Policy: International Human Rights**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Panelists:

Terry Sloan, Intergovernmental Tribal Liaison, City of Albuquerque

Chris Foley, Director, Indian Law Resource Center

Caroline LaPorte, Staff Attorney, Indian Law Resource Center

10:00am to 11:00am

**Panel: Voices of Strength**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Panelists:

Kena Chaves Hinojos, Co-Founder/Advocate, Getting to the Rootz and CCBHC-Certified Peer Support Specialist, All Faith's Children's Advocacy Center

Renee San Souci, Cultural Consultant, Program Coordinator, Healing Ribbons

Tiffany Jiron, Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women

11:00am to 12:00pm

**Panel: Youth Housing Policy**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Panelists:

Bernadette Hardy, Community Programs Manager, Naeva

Youth Rep, Naeva



**12:00pm to 1:30pm**

**Lunch Provided**

**Northwest Wing**

Catering provided by Garcia's Kitchen

**12:30 to 1:30 pm**

**Medicinal Plants of the Acoma and Laguna Pueblos**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Presenters:

Cecelia Lucero (Acoma Pueblo), Floral Designer, Earth & Sky Floral Designs

Shayai Lucero (Acoma Pueblo/Laguna Pueblo), Floral Designer, Earth & Sky Floral Designs

Description:

Wild plants given to us by Our Mother have shaped the lives of Native peoples for thousands of years. In the arid lands of Acoma and Laguna Pueblos, several species are used as medicine by the people who live in this high desert. These plants are used to cure certain illnesses and to benefit the person. Cecelia and Shayai will share their knowledge and present some plants used as medicines in their Pueblos. Come learn about the pharmacy that grows on the mesas, arroyos and pathways of New Mexico.

**1:30 pm to 2:00 pm**

**Call to Action & Closing**

**Auditorium – Room 100**

Presenter:

Cody Saint Arnold, Native American Artist, Musician, Influencer

**- Thank You for Attending -**



# Keynote Speakers

## Keynote Address

Title: Restoring Beauty — Reclaiming K'é for Our Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives

Speaker: **Amber Kanazbah Crotty, Council Delegate, 25th Navajo Nation Council**

### Synopsis:

Restoring Beauty: Reclaiming K'é for Our Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives

This presentation will explore the intersection of housing justice and the ongoing crisis of Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives, centering traditional Diné teachings of K'é—kinship, interconnectedness, and relational accountability—as a foundation for healing and systemic change. Through best practices, policy solutions, and culturally grounded approaches, we will examine how safe and stable housing can serve as a protective measure for survivors and a pathway to justice. Together, we will reclaim spaces of safety, dignity, and restoration for our relatives, ensuring that housing is not just a shelter but a place of healing and empowerment.

### Bio:

Amber Kanazbah Crotty serves on the 25th Navajo Nation Council and chairs the Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives Taskforce. She is also Chair of the New Mexico Delegate Caucus and a member of the Budget and Finance Committee. A graduate of UCLA, she studied American Indian Studies with a focus on law and history. Delegate Crotty is Kinyaa'áanii and her maternal grandfather is Deeshchii'nii. She is from Tó Halstooí (Sheep Springs, NM) and is a staunch advocate for survivors of violence, LGBTQ2Si relatives, ICWA families, and unsheltered citizens. Her leadership reflects her belief in protecting future generations: "Atchíní bá a'nít'á – Do it for the Children."

## Keynote Address

Title: Housing Our Relatives

Speaker: **Dr. Theodore (Ted) Jojola, Ph.D.**

### Synopsis:

With the passage of the 1975 Indian Self-Determination Act, Tribal governments gained authority to shape the growth of their communities. Yet, housing remains underutilized as a pillar of local development and comprehensive planning. This keynote will examine the challenges of housing development in Indigenous communities and propose culturally grounded approaches to reclaiming housing as a tool for collective well-being and sovereignty.

### Bio:

Dr. Theodore (Ted) Jojola is the founder and Director of the Indigenous Design + Planning Institute (iD+Pi) at the University of New Mexico's School of Architecture and Planning. An enrolled member of the Pueblo of Isleta, he is a Regents' Professor and Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Community & Regional Planning, retiring in 2025. Over his four-decade career, Dr. Jojola has pioneered Indigenous planning models and led initiatives in education, architecture, and community development across the Southwest and internationally. He previously served as Director of Native American Studies at UNM and helped establish the nation's first graduate concentration in Indigenous Planning. His published work includes *Reclaiming Indigenous Planning and How It Is*, and he currently hosts the podcast "PlaceKnowing." More at [idpi.unm.edu](http://idpi.unm.edu).

# Speaker Biographies

## **Damayanthi Fernando**

### **Director of Programs, Hawaiian Community Assets (HCA)**

Damayanthi Fernando leads statewide initiatives that increase access to housing, financial education, and community resources, with a focus on long-term economic stability for Hawai'i's communities. Her career spans global and local work in public health, refugee resettlement, and youth development, including service to Pacific Islander communities through Hawai'i Job Corps. She brings a trauma-informed, culturally responsive approach to her leadership and continues to build strong partnerships that promote equity across the state. Damayanthi believes in empowering individuals to navigate systems while remaining grounded in cultural identity. Her work reflects a deep commitment to community-led solutions that support children, families, and future generations. She holds degrees from Mount Holyoke College and Lewis & Clark College.

## **Erica Hanawahini**

### **Home Loan Manager, Hawai'i Community Lending (HCL)**

Erica Hanawahini oversees HCL's home loan programs and brings deep expertise in affordable mortgage lending, including USDA, FHA, and Native Hawaiian-focused products. She has helped develop culturally grounded financing solutions for homestead lands and underserved communities, advocating for financial counseling as a core element of homeownership. Under her leadership, HCL has expanded access to capital and created sustainable lending programs that honor cultural values. Born and raised in Hawai'i, Erica's commitment to housing equity is rooted in lived experience and a vision for generational stability and self-determination.

## **Krista Del Gallo**

### **Housing and Child Welfare Consultant**

Krista Del Gallo has been working in the domestic and sexual violence prevention fields since 1994. She has been a child and survivor advocate at programs in Bloomington, Indiana, the Rosebud Lakota Reservation in South Dakota, and Austin, Texas. Krista spent over two decades in policy advocacy at the Texas Council on Family Violence and most recently led the training and technical assistance efforts of the National Center to Advance Peace for Children, Youth and Families, the current federally funded resource center on child protection and custody. She has significant experience and expertise relating to relief and remedies for immigrant survivors, housing and economic options, and health advocacy.

## **Jamie B. Navenma**

### **Executive Director, Laguna Housing Development and Management Enterprise (LHDME)**

Jamie began working with LHDME in February 2022. He has worked in and with tribal communities throughout the United States. Mr. Navenma has worked for the Yavapai-Apache Nation (YAN) and the Hopi Tribe in their respective energy programs, serving as the Economic & Energy Program Coordinator for YAN for two (2) years and as a Project Manager for the Hopi Sustainable Energy Program for three and a half (3.5) years. Mr. Navenma also has experience and knowledge in tribal housing that started in 1993 as a Homeownership Counselor and he has worked in various positions in tribal housing and was the Executive Director for the Hopi Tribal Housing Authority for 2 years, the Housing Director for Hualapai Housing Department for 4 years and the Executive Director for Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority for 1.5 years. He currently serves as the President of the Southwest Tribal Housing Alliance - AZ, NM and W. TX (SWTHA), represents Region VIII (AZ, NM and W. TX) on the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC), and serves on the Red Feather Development Group's Board of Directors.

## **Krista Del Gallo**

### **Housing and Child Welfare Consultant**

Krista Del Gallo has been working in the domestic and sexual violence prevention fields since 1994. She has been a child and survivor advocate at programs in Bloomington, Indiana, the Rosebud Lakota Reservation in South Dakota, and Austin, Texas. Krista spent over two decades in policy advocacy at the Texas Council on Family Violence and most recently led the training and technical assistance efforts of the National Center to Advance Peace for Children, Youth and Families, the current federally funded resource center on child protection and custody. She has significant experience and expertise relating to relief and remedies for immigrant survivors, housing and economic options, and health advocacy.



**Matilde Serena-Jordan****SR. Director of Housing Services, Native American Connections**

Matilde Serena-Jordan oversees housing services at Native American Connections, managing property operations and support programs for vulnerable populations. She holds a Bachelor's in International Affairs and a Master's in Social Justice and Human Rights. A strong advocate for equity and inclusion, she has led DEIA initiatives across multiple organizations and served on related committees. Originally from Italy, she has called Arizona home for the past eight years and is deeply committed to community-driven, culturally responsive housing solutions. Matilde values collaboration and continuous improvement to ensure services meet the evolving needs of the communities she serves. Her work reflects a strong belief in housing as a foundation for dignity, stability, and long-term well-being.

**CHENOAH BAH STILWELL-JENSEN, PhD****Dawn Begay (Diné)****Vice-President, Cicuyé Consulting, LLC.**

Dawn Begay is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation with over 15 years of experience in community organizing and Indigenous advocacy. She currently serves as Vice President of Cicuyé Consulting and previously held leadership roles with the City of Albuquerque, including Acting Director of the Office of Equity and Inclusion and Tribal Liaison. Her work spans housing, homelessness, and public safety, earning her the 2023 DOJ Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Community Partnerships. Dawn also serves on the Southwest Indigenous Housing Justice Collaborative and co-chairs the Native American Homelessness Subcommittee. She holds a B.A. in Native American Studies and Political Science from the University of New Mexico.

**Brandi Ahmie****Liaison, City of Albuquerque Office of Native American Affairs**

Brandi Ahmie, a matriarch from the Pueblo of Laguna, is a leader in maternal health, Indigenous knowledge revitalization, and community development. She previously served as a Health Administrator at Changing Woman Initiative and is a certified doula. Brandi has worked across sectors—from finance to food systems—and recently raised \$5,000 for maternal health by running the 2024 Boston Marathon. She also advocates for sustainability through beekeeping and leads the Mother Moon initiative to preserve traditional women's practices. Her work reflects a strong commitment to Indigenous-led change and community resilience. Brandi is dedicated to addressing health inequities facing Native women and creating spaces that honor culture, healing, and empowerment. She brings a deep sense of purpose to every effort, rooted in community connection and service.

**Garron Yepa, AICAE****Senior Designer, MASS Design Group**

Garron was born and raised in New Mexico and brings his cultural and regional knowledge to every architectural project. As the son of a Navajo (Dine) mother, and a Jemez Pueblo (Towa) father, Garron has a unique perspective on architecture and design. He has continued his learning with extended stays in New Hampshire, Alaska, and New York City - always returning home to restore his grounding in his communities. He has worked on a wide range of projects including commercial interiors, affordable housing, hospitality, and historic preservation. MASS Design Group, a non-profit Architecture and Design organization whose mission is to research, build, and advocate for architecture that promotes justice and human dignity. Garron has a dual Bachelor of Arts degree in Engineering and Native American Studies from Dartmouth College and a Master of Architecture from the University of New Mexico. Garron currently sits on the board of directors of Cornerstones Community Partnerships and is a member of the Cultural Properties Review Committee of the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office.

**Victoria Ybanez , MPA, Diné, Jicarilla Apache and Mexican****Executive Director, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.**

Victoria Ybanez has worked for over 40 years to end violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women. She is the Executive Director of Red Wind Consulting, where she leads national training and technical assistance for Tribal programs supported by the U.S. Department of Justice. A founding leader of the American Indian Community Housing Organization (AICHO), she helped formalize it as a Community Development Corporation and launched its housing initiatives. Victoria also created Red Wind's National Tribal Advocate Center and serves as lead faculty for its

40-hour domestic and sexual violence training institutes. She holds an MPA from the University of Colorado and a BA in Economics from the University of Minnesota. Her expertise includes intertribal coordination, culturally based advocacy, and systems change. She continues to be a national voice for Tribal sovereignty and survivor-centered solutions.

**Norine Hill, Oneida Nation of the Thames,  
CEO/Founder, Mother Nation**

Norine Hill, from the Oneida Nation of the Thames (Bear Clan), is the Founder and CEO of Mother Nation. She brings 30 years of executive leadership and 25 years of grant management experience, overseeing more than \$15 million in Tribal and First Nation services. A survivor and advocate, she founded Native Women in Need in 2012, which became Mother Nation in 2017—a statewide, Native-led organization providing healing, advocacy, and support for Native women and families. Norine previously served on her Nation's Education Board and Council and remains dedicated to cultural restoration, housing justice, and community wellness. Under her leadership, Mother Nation operates multiple frontline programs addressing homelessness, MMIR advocacy, and cultural response services. She continues to center Indigenous knowledge and sisterhood as pathways to healing and empowerment.

**Lucas O'Laughlin, LCSW,  
Director, Kewa Family Wellness Center, Santo Domingo Pueblo**

Lucas O'Laughlin oversees a range of Tribal health programs, including behavioral health, crisis response, transitional living, and youth shelter services. He has over 15 years of experience in integrated care, program administration, and grant management, with a focus on culturally responsive and trauma-informed services for Native and underserved communities. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker, he holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Denver. His leadership includes work on opioid prevention, mental health access, and public health initiatives across regional and intertribal partnerships. Lucas remains committed to advancing health equity and strengthening care systems rooted in community and culture. He is a strong advocate for collaborative, cross-sector approaches that meet the complex needs of Tribal populations. His work emphasizes long-term solutions that build resilience and expand access to essential services.

**Didra Humetewa,  
Youth Shelter Manager, Kewa Family Wellness Center, Santo Domingo Pueblo**

Didra Humetewa, from Santo Domingo Pueblo, manages Kewa House, a culturally grounded shelter for Native youth. She ensures a safe, supportive environment while coordinating care with local agencies and behavioral health providers. Passionate about mental health and trauma-informed care, she is pursuing a degree in counseling with the goal of becoming a licensed counselor. Didra is committed to expanding culturally relevant services and advocating for Native youth and families. Her leadership reflects a deep understanding of the need for stability, healing, and dignity in young lives. She actively engages in professional development to strengthen her impact as a leader. Her long-term goal is to integrate traditional healing practices into youth programming across Tribal communities.

**Estefanita L. Calabaza (Santo Domingo Pueblo)  
CHR & Prevention Program Manager, Kewa Family Wellness Center, Santo Domingo Pueblo**

She provides vital program leadership and specializes in Indigenous-centered programming, coordinating culturally relevant training sessions focused on suicide prevention, mental health, and holistic well-being. She holds a Master of Arts degree in American Indian Studies from the University of Arizona. Her academic background strengthens her dedication to incorporating holistic healing traditions, Indigenous knowledge systems, and culturally grounded practices into program development, fostering culturally relevant support for the Pueblo community.

**Kailey Carter  
Senior Housing Specialist, National Network to End Domestic Violence**

Kailey has spent most of her career providing trauma-informed services to survivors of gender-based violence working in direct services and a state domestic violence coalition. Kailey currently works for the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) where she provides national technical assistance training to domestic violence programs who receive transitional housing funding.

**Tami Truett Jerue****Executive Director, Alaska Native Women's Resource Center (AKNWRC)**

Tami Truett Jerue has over 40 years of experience in direct services and advocacy for Alaska Native women and families. A founding member of AKNWRC, she has led the organization since its creation in 2014, bringing national attention to the impacts of colonization and the urgent need to address interpersonal violence in Native communities. She has testified before Congress and the United Nations, advocating for Tribal resources and justice for survivors. Tami previously served over 28 years with the Anvik Tribal Council in Tribal Administration, Indian Child Protection, and DV/SA services. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and graduate studies in Community Psychology. Under her leadership, AKNWRC has built strong partnerships to strengthen Tribal responses to violence. She remains committed to advancing safety, sovereignty, and healing for Alaska Native women and families. She is married to Carl Jerue, Jr., of Anvik, and they have four beautiful children and six grandchildren.

**Rick A. Haskins-Garcia, Esq.,****Director of Law and Policy, Alaska Native Women's Resource Center (AKNWRC) and Tribal Judge for the Chickaloon Native Village**

Rick was born in West Germany and raised in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Since 2018, Rick has provided training and technical assistance to Alaska tribal courts and justice systems and has served as the Tribal Justice Director and Associate General Counsel for AVCP and as the District Court Magistrate Judge for the Alaska Court System's 4th Judicial District, based in Aniak and Hooper Bay. Rick graduated cum laude from the Southern Illinois School of Law in 2009 and received his bachelor's degree in Political Science cum laude from Florida Atlantic University in 2004. Rick has been a licensed Attorney for over fourteen years and is licensed in the state courts of Florida and Alaska and in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

**Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury****Terry Sloan****Intergovernmental Tribal Liaison, City of Albuquerque**

Mr. Sloan is a manager/owner of Sloan and Company – Accountants and Advisors. Mr. Sloan has extensive experience with Tribal governments and industry-specific experience in non-profit organizations, governments, oil and gas, public housing, economic development, construction enterprises, educational institutions, pension plans, and other retail small businesses, in-house bookkeeping, office manager, computer systems design, policies and procedural design, development and implementation, designing and implementing automated accounting systems, and preparation of federal, state, individual, corporate and nonprofit tax returns. Current focus is on accounting technical assistance and Management Advisory Services

**CHRIS FOLEY****CAROLINE LAPORTE****Kena Chaves Hinojos****Co-Founder/Advocate, Getting to the Rootz and CCBHC-Certified Peer Support Specialist, All Faith's Children's Advocacy Center****Renee San Souci****Cultural Consultant and Program Coordinator, Healing Ribbons**

Renee Sans Souci (Umonhon) is an educator, cultural consultant, and curriculum developer with a degree in education from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. She has been a Teaching Artist with the Lied Center for Performing Arts since 2009 and regularly presents on topics including MMIR, Native science, environmental justice, and Indigenous education. Renee was featured in the PBS American Masters Series *Unladylike* 2020 and received the 2023 Leo Yankton Award for Indigenous Justice. She currently serves as Program Coordinator for Healing Ribbons in Omaha and co-leads the Niskithe Prayer Camp. Her work centers cultural identity, language revitalization, and the protection of sacred spaces. She is dedicated to empowering Indigenous youth and communities through education and advocacy.



**Bernadette Hardy****Community Programs Manager, Naeva**

Bernadette Hardy, a member of the Navajo Nation and Jemez Pueblo, is from Albuquerque and holds a B.A. in Music from the University of New Mexico. As an urban Native, she has experienced the systemic inequities faced by Native families and has dedicated over 14 years to grassroots organizing and mutual aid. Her work includes leadership roles in mentoring programs, the International District Healthy Communities Coalition, and the ABQ CiQlovia Project. She also serves on the Highland High School Community School Council. Bernadette is a strong advocate for housing access, food security, and safe, healthy communities. Her efforts focus on uplifting Native voices in urban spaces and promoting community-driven change. She is the proud mother to one teenage son.

**Cecelia Lucero (Acoma Pueblo)**

Cecelia is from the Pueblo of Acoma and is of the Roadrunner clan for her late Mother and a Parrot child for her late father. She is a retired educator who taught most of her 34 years in Laguna Pueblo. Prior to her teaching career, Cecelia was the first Native American woman US Peace Corps volunteer and served in Jamaica. During her teaching years she received several teaching distinctions including the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Citizenship Education Teacher Awards (2001-2022), was an official International Visitors Escort for the US Department of State Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, and was one of Disney's American Teachers in 2002-2003. Cecelia has had a lifelong affinity to the lands and plants of her people and enjoys hiking the mesas. She currently is a member of the AISES Council of Elders. Cecelia is the wife/partner of her beloved late husband, Stanley Lucero. She is the mother to Shayai, Haitzi and the late Payadyamu. She is the grandmother to Kaweshchima, Maityaitsa and her Granddog Lexie and her late Granddog Jesse.

**Shayai Lucero (Acoma Pueblo/Laguna Pueblo)**

Shayai is from the Pueblos of Acoma and Laguna. She is of the Roadrunner clan for her Mother and a Turkey child for her late father. She has been affiliated with AISES since 1988 when she was 13 years old. This was around the time her learning of medicinal plants began as a science fair project. Now Shayai is considered a knowledge keeper of the medicinal plants of her people. She has uniquely combined her learning of Curanderismo medicine, her studies of Biology and Chemistry, and integrated them with the medicinal plants. In addition to her continued learning and teaching of the traditional medicinal plants, Shayai is also an entrepreneur and floral designer of Earth & Sky Floral Designs where her bespoke floral designs emulate the unique person she is. Shayai is the daughter of Cecelia and the late Stanley Lucero. She is the biological sister of Haitzi and the late Payadyamu. She is the adopted sister and granddaughter to many. Her husband/partner is Aaron Fry (Cherokee/Chickasaw) and their children are Kaweshchima and Maityaitsa. Shayai and Aaron are raising their family next door to her parents/childhood home in Laguna Pueblo.

**RACHEL LEE****CODY SAINT ARNOLD****Catering Services****Sweet Revenge Cakes and Confections**

Eric Freeland, Owner/Pastry Chef of Sweet Revenge, graduated from Le Cordon Bleu in Scottsdale, AZ. The business was solely known for desserts and cakes before launching catering in 2021, there was a lack of caterers in the Farmington area that offer the menu ranges we now offer. Originally from Farmington, NM, where his company settled, they are now close to celebrating 13 years in the business.

**Three Sisters Kitchen**

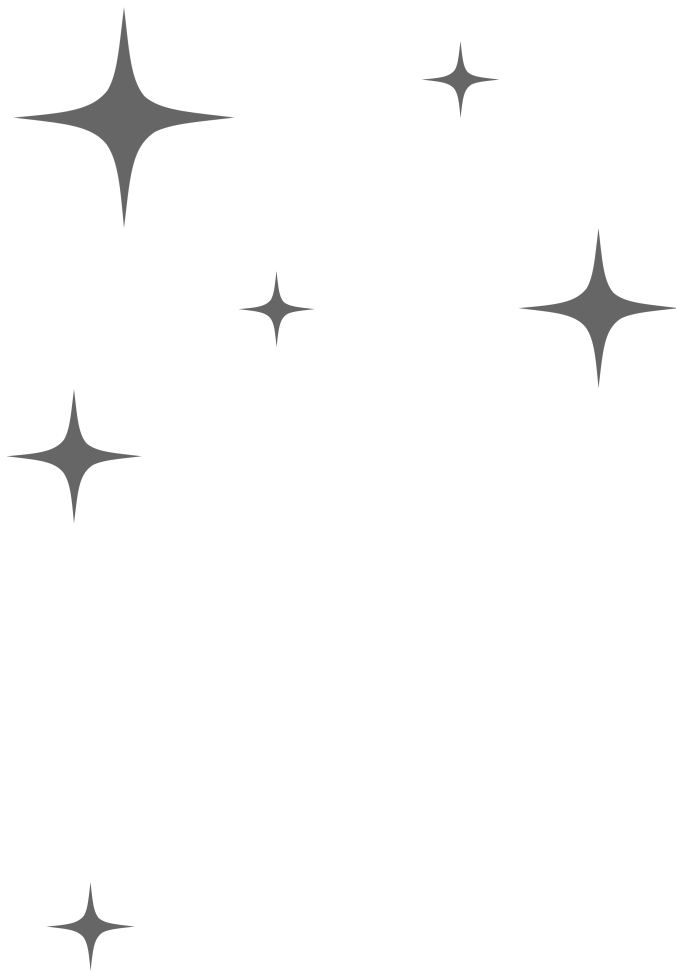
Three Sisters Kitchen is a non-profit community food space in the heart of downtown Albuquerque. A place where delicious, affordable, and locally produced foods come together to nourish our community from the ground up.

**Garcia's Kitchens**

Garcia's Kitchens are local family owned restaurants in Albuquerque NM. Their goal is to serve fresh ingredients and meals at moderate prices. Some of their specialties are: handmade tortillas, biscochitos, carne adovada, menudo, salsa and red and green chile sauces.

**Starbucks at Avanyu Plaza**

The only freestanding Starbucks Coffee licensed to a Native American-owned company in the United States features Pueblo-inspired architecture, a spacious outdoor patio, two kiva fireplaces, and a community meeting room. The handmade Pueblo pottery and art commissioned specifically for their location.



## **2025** **National Tribal Housing Justice Summit**

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**[www.niwrc.org/housing](http://www.niwrc.org/housing)**